

NOTES from MEADOWBROOK FARM



By William Pitt

Sheep deserve good care.

Asparagus is a hardy plant.

Onions stand considerable cold.

A kerosene bath for roosts is urged.

The dairy cow should essentially be a large and rich milker.

There is more or less risk in feeding ordinary silage to lambs or sheep.

It is a well-known fact that alfalfa does not do well upon an impervious subsoil.

In feeding dairy cows give them all they will clean up at each feed but no more.

Range-bred lambs are far superior to native-bred lambs for breeding purposes.

Goslings must be kept out of dampness and fed only grass, water and coarse sand.

Don't fail to divide the buttermilk between biddy and the pigs. She relishes it as much as they.

The grape root worm has committed extensive depredations among the vineyards of Pennsylvania.

A toothbrush and a little naphtha will clean your velvet coat collars and make them look new again.

Select one dairy breed and stick to it. Don't mix up the breeds or you will spoil the sale of your stock.

All fowls, chicks, ducks and ducklings that are kept in yards should have plenty of green feed every day.

If the frost kills the vines of the sweet potatoes cut them off as soon as possible or the potatoes may turn black.

The spring colt should be pretty well broken by this time; if not, this is a good month to get acquainted with him.

Clean the stock tank, and keep it free from moss. Then fill it with fresh cool water. The stock will appreciate it.

The manager of the dairy farm must supply the brain. The success of the undertaking will depend largely upon him.

Early Six Weeks is a good potato for a short time, but it soon loses quality. A few rows in the garden come in handy.

Let the cows sleep out in the pastures until the very chilly nights come on. Better for them than to lie in a stuffy barn.

If pastures are falling feed a little fodder each day to the stock. It makes them more contented and less inclined to try the fences.

Farmers and feeders will this year welcome full corn cribs. It is risky business at best making meat on 75-cent corn and we will all welcome cheaper grain.

Farm orchards seem smaller and worse neglected than they were ten years ago. Perhaps the reason lies in the fact that small lots of fruit hardly ever sell profitably.

If the sheep are compelled to dig in short pastures for their living they will eat the roots of the grass. Better divide the pasture and feed one part while the other is catching up.

The number of silos in Kansas has nearly if not quite doubled in the last year. If they were not profitable do you think they would be built? We are not working for the fun of it any longer.

After the pigs have been put into the fattening pen in the fall they should be fed all that they will eat with a relish, for, as a rule, the shorter the fattening period the larger the profits.

A duckling does not know how to get out of danger. Instead it will become panic stricken and remain easy prey for the enemy. On the contrary a chicken is always on the alert, scampering off to some hiding place the moment it hears some strange noise.

Never fasten fencing wire directly to growing trees. If you do, in a few years the wire will have become imbedded in the tree and do it permanent injury. When you wish to use a tree for this purpose, spike a strip of sound board securely to the tree and fasten the wire to that. In this way very little injury will be done to the tree.

Hogs return quick profits.

Freshen up the poultry runs.

The separator is a helpful factor.

Agricultural fairs are of much value.

The first and greatest law of breeding is "like begets like."

A sheep that is in good condition in the fall is half wintered.

Tankage is one of the very best commercial feeds in fattening hogs.

Silage and alfalfa combined make the foundation of the best dairy ration.

Ducks are very fond of dandelions chopped and mixed with ground grain.

Cattle should have access to water at all times when prairie pasture is getting dry.

"Too little phosphorus" is the cause of many of the low yields on corn belt soils.

Have the ropes and straps good and stout when you begin to halter break the colt.

There seems to be a good deal of prejudice against millet because it exhausts the soil.

Skimp your sheep on good pasture and they will skimp you on mutton. Works both ways.

The value of corn silage to the beef producer is not limited to its use in winter feeding alone.

Keep the laying hens working. To do this feed them at daybreak and just before sundown.

Wait until cool weather has absolutely put the last fly out of business before dehorning the cattle.

Instead of using an old wooden watering tank make one of cement that will never decay or leak.

The longer the calf is allowed to suck the cow the harder it will be to make it drink from a bucket.

After a day's work clean the work horses thoroughly, wash their legs from the knees down and rub dry.

Raise horses for big money, cattle for sure money and hogs for quick money. Is an old saying, and a good one.

A year ago there was more stock than there was feed. Now there is feed for more stock than can be found.

In building a wire fence for hogs put one barbed wire at the bottom, and the worst rooter in the pasture won't root out.

Don't be afraid to apply air-slaked lime to the cabbages with a blow gun. It will destroy the worms on the head of the cabbage.

Young fruit trees that were planted in the autumn of last year, or in the spring of this year, should be examined carefully.

The garden acre should be the best on the farm. Best prepared, best fertilized and best cared for. Then it will give the best returns.

While the orchard is coming into bearing try vegetable growing as a side line. This makes one of the surest and best sources of income.

Chopped roots, fed along with the grain, will make a valuable addition to the ration, especially if winter grazing or silage is not at hand.

Keeping any machine well oiled and in proper repair not only increases efficiency, but decreases the amount of power required to run the machine.

Do not allow the cows to dry up during the latter part of the summer, as this necessitates keeping them through the winter, giving a smaller flow of milk than they should.

Land plaster has a very small percentage of lime; lump lime has the largest percentage, and hydrated lime next. Marl is usually a little richer in lime than ground lime stone.

For the last six months the hog feeder has but little more than broken even. If we are to judge the future by the past there is a time coming soon when the hog feeder will make good money.

The peanut is becoming more important as a feed for stock, especially in the southern states. The vines with the nuts attached are often cured, and they make a palatable hay for all kinds of farm stock.

The fruit farmer can always find something to do, either in the orchard or around the buildings. This business, like any other, is ruined by too much loafing. Keep the loose ends well in hand for the best results.

The great bulk of the oat crop of the world is produced within the north temperate zone including the countries of Russia, Germany, Norway and Sweden, Canada, and the northern part of the United States. Russia produces more oats than any other country.

PROPER ATTENTION TO BREEDING EWE DURING AUTUMN SEASON IS DESIRABLE

Extra Labor and Care at This Time Will be Repaid Many Times Over at Lambing Time—Rape Makes One of Most Excellent Feeds for Flock.

(By ELMER HENDERSON.)
A flock of ewes just weaning lambs and in thin flesh at the time of conception are apt to be very poor subjects for maternity in the spring. No matter how well the ewe may be fed just previous to the time of lambing, she will not be in her best condition to nourish her offspring unless she is in fair condition at the time of mating.

The reason is at once apparent. If a ewe is thin when she is bred the burden of growing the young is too much of a strain upon her to allow of her gaining much flesh. This brings us to what is known as "flushing" among old shepherds.

Flushing may be defined as putting the ewe upon highly succulent and nutritious feeds just previous to mating.

I have said before that it was necessary to have the ewe in good flesh at the mating season. This is just the object of flushing.

It has been found by all practical shepherds that a pint of grain in September is worth a quart at lambing time. The reason is that the ewe fed grain in the fall has very little burden to bear in the shape of the growing young, while in the case of the ewe heavy with lamb all the food eaten goes mostly to nourish the foetus. It will be inferred that if grain will make the difference in the

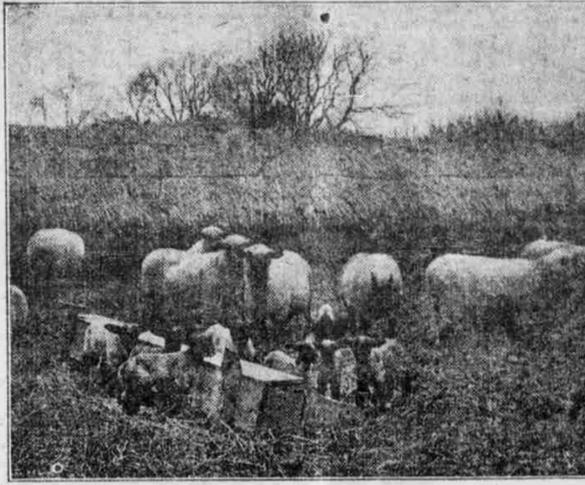
new vigor which puts her in much the same condition that she is in the advent of cool weather.

Whether this is the reason or not does not matter to the farmer if he knows whether this or some other reason applies, he gets the results looked for, which is of vastly more importance.

Oftentimes the means nearest at hand are the best and this is true in our particular case. The meadow is always at hand and could easily be used for fall feed for the ewes. The aftermath that springs up in the fall makes good growth and furnishes a very nutritious and highly palatable food. If there is some clover in it so much the better, as there is no food better for sheep.

Rape makes a very excellent food, and I am very partial to it. A small patch of rape sown in the summer, by this time is large enough to make a lot of good feed. Another way is to sow rape in the corn at the last cultivation and turn the sheep in the corn. If a few sheep are turned into a lot of rape and corn they may be allowed to run there for some time before they will in any way damage the corn.

Then, too, this furnishes fine feed for the lambs after the ewes are taken out. They may be allowed to run here all fall and will live on the rape and lower blades of corn, and if the



Flock of Hampshire Downs on an English Farm.

condition of the ewe, grass will do the same thing—and this is just what happens. The ewe that has plenty of good nutritious grasses in the fall is almost sure to come to lambing time in good heart and raise a good, lusty lamb, while the reverse is true of the ewe that is not given a good chance.

Flushing is especially desirable in large flocks where it is desirable to have the ewes all lamb at nearly the same time.

With many flockmasters it is considered desirable to have the ewes bred as early as possible so as to have the lambs ready for the early and therefore best market.

It has been found that by flushing the ewes they may be made to breed earlier than they would otherwise, and most of them will lamb in a comparatively short period.

It is well known that ewes come in heat with the coming of cool weather, and it is probably true that the fresh, palatable grass, by cooling the system and invigorating the ewe by a fresh flow of blood, infuses into her

corn is not down too much they will not bother the ear.

Where it is intended to make rape and corn serve this double purpose of pasturing the ewes and the weaned lambs it is well to plant a lot of pumpkins for feed for the lambs later in the fall. They will do their own gathering and they are the best possible vermifuges.

However well your fall pasture is it is always well to remember that a little grain will not come amiss, and I believe it would pay every sheep owner to feed a half pound of oats to his sheep every day during the fall and winter, even though they are on luxuriant pasture.

There are many other ways of caring for the ewes than the ones mentioned. The only point of great importance is to give good, green food and lots of it. What the kind of food will be, every farmer can best decide for himself, but this much is certain: All extra labor with the ewe flock at mating season will be repaid many times over at the lambing period.

PREVENTING DISEASE IS MOST DESIRED

Many Farmers Realize That When Hogs Are Taken Sick the Case Demands Quick Action.

It is of the greatest importance in the care of the swine that the owner should always have in view the prevention of disease rather than the cure. Hogs are subject to but few diseases, and these are malignant, epidemic or contagious of the most serious type. It is very difficult to give medicine to a sick hog, and this, combined with the rapid course of the disease which affects them, makes the treatment of disease very unsatisfactory in severe cases of hog cholera, pneumonia, etc.

The average stockman calls every disease hog cholera which affects his hogs. A well-known professor of Cornell gives fifteen different diseases that are generally called hog cholera. Many of these diseases are very serious, and run their course so rapidly that sometimes a few days' neglect causes the loss of nearly an entire herd of hogs. This explains why one farmer will take a remedy and cure his hogs, when perhaps his nearby neighbor will take it and not obtain such good results. In nine cases out of ten it will depend on whether the farmer is careful and systematic in following the directions not alone in giving the treatment, but also in

using disinfectants and the general care.

Many farmers realize that when hogs are taken sick the case demands immediate attention if they expect to save any of their hogs. Some farmers are very careless and wait till the disease is well started, and even then do not pretend to follow directions. It is surprising that these careless farmers save any of their hogs after disease starts.

All these facts simply go to prove that the sensible way is to handle your hogs in such a way as to prevent disease. Build up and improve the constitutional strength. This is what will save you great loss from hog cholera. When your hogs are sick with the worst kind of hog cholera we do not believe anything will help them, and the safer way in such cases is to take an ax and kill them at once, and then burn the remains. This is for the malignant form of hog cholera. In a majority of cases they do not have this very fatal form, and they can be cured with the proper treatment.

Sets Strawberries Late.

I have had good success setting strawberry plants in the fall if they are set late enough and some miserable failures from setting them in August or the early part of September. I think if the plants are left growing until their crowns are well formed and then set out as late as November 1, I have gained something, says a writer in an exchange. Unless I had time to set them very early in the spring I would trust to late fall setting.

POULTRY

MISSOURI CURE FOR GAPES

Disease Most Prevalent in Damp Weather, Caused by Worm in Chick's Windpipe.

(By MRS. JOHN J. MOORE, Missouri.)
A most common disease among chickens and one which causes great loss in the summer is gapes. This disease, which is most prevalent in cool, damp weather, is caused by worms, which get in the young chick's windpipe, causing it to gasp for breath and if not dislodged, shutting off its supply of air.

Sometimes the worm can be twisted out with a horsehair, but this is a severe remedy and other worms may take its place.

The following is a preventative and will check the trouble at once: Obtain the leaves of the common woodworm, sometimes called Jerusalem oak, a plant which grows wild in most places, having an erect, shrubby stem and small, yellowish flowers. Its leaves when crushed have an unpleasant odor and are used in the manufacture of vermifuge and to protect clothing and furniture from moths and other insects.

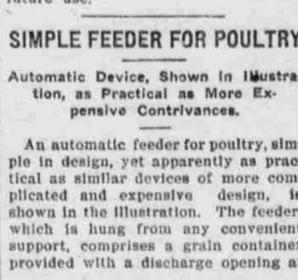
Mash the leaves and mix in a small quantity with the chicken's feed or put in the drinking fountains.

Or, after the seeds have ripened, they may be used instead of the leaves and a quantity gathered for future use.

SIMPLE FEEDER FOR POULTRY

Automatic Device, Shown in Illustration, as Practical as More Expensive Contrivances.

An automatic feeder for poultry, simple in design, yet apparently as practical as similar devices of more complicated and expensive design, is shown in the illustration. The feeder, which is hung from any convenient support, comprises a grain container provided with a discharge opening at



Automatic Feeder.

the bottom; a scoop pivoted underneath the opening, and a pendulum-like arrangement with a ball at its end. The chickens peck at this ball, thus causing the pendulum to swing, which tilts the scoop and allows a certain amount of grain to fall to the ground.

Scratching Beds.

If it is possible, do not keep laying hens or raise young chicks without this very necessary article, even on the farm. Place your coops for the little ones near some shady place and there scatter coarse straw manure about three inches deep, then keep it moist at the bottom, if there is no rain, and watch the little fellows go down after the angleworms that flourish at the bottom, and you will see your chicks flourish also. The currant brush is a good place.

POULTRY NOTES

One of the best ways to start is to get six hens, and grow.

To successfully preserve eggs, perfectly fresh ones must be selected.

Remember that it is the profit per hen that counts, not the profit per flock.

Milk is an excellent food for growing chicks and, in fact, for any class of fowls.

It does not require much hard work to keep a flock in good condition in the summer.

The simplest form of intestinal disorder to which chickens are subject is ordinary diarrhea.

Better that the chicks roost in the trees than that they be confined in a vermin-ridden building.

There can be no question that a lot of fowls die yearly from no other cause than a lack of food.

The reputation of giving a square deal to every customer is as necessary as that of breeding birds of good quality.

Skim-milk is not a dear commodity in the poultry yard when its beneficial effects upon the stock are considered.

Body lice will worry a flock to death, or so nearly so as to destroy its usefulness. These can be killed, but not easily.

The ONLOOKER

WILBUR D. NESBIT

The UNSUSPECTING



Somewhere he lives—perhaps across the street—
And knows not how to him approach
On patient, unrelenting steady feet
That have the pace to find him soon or late,
Somewhere he is—it may be you or me!
(Of doubtless fate will not be so unkind,
And neither you nor I that day shall be
The unsuspecting man whom fate will find.)

Somewhere this man goes to his daily work,
He keeps his little round of hours and tasks,
Dreaming what the future's fog and mists
With cryptic, mystic silence—this day masks.
He little knows what is for him in store;
Today he mayhap smiles or hums a song
Or lounges idly in some friendly door
And nods to all the friends who pass along.

And still the finger points unto him now,
Though neither you nor I, nor anyone,
May see the hand full-leveled at his brow,
May realize the deed that shall be done,
Ah, what a blinding maze is this our life,
Wherein we neither know by sight nor speech
Which of us shall go on in peace or strife,
Which one of us fate's iron hand shall reach!

It is but as a turning of the road—
Today into tomorrow leaps so soon;
The gaudy chaplet changes to a goad,
The storm breaks in the dreaming hush of noon;
The song ends in a breathless, broken strain,
The vision fades into a melting mist—
We are the toys that chance views with disdain,
That fate flings where-soever she may list.

And so for him, unknown, we heave a sigh—
Though praying that if it be one of us
We may persuade stern fate to pass us by
And not, forsooth, to overwhelm us thus,
Somewhere, all unsuspecting, lives the man
Who little dreams that it is fate's decree
That he shall be, within a few years' span,
Made a vice-presidential nominee!

Man of Capacity.
"What do you think of this?" asks the man with the newspaper. "Here is an item stating that 'Julius Kessler, of Chicago now holds 30,000 barrels of Kentucky whiskey!'"
"Why," answered the man without the newspaper, "I think that Julius will be trying to hold all the headache medicine he can buy one of these bright and balmy mornings."

An Interruption.
"Canst thou then draw out Leviathan with a hook?" said the pastor, in sonorous tones.
"Well," exclaimed Old Man Fisher, who had been napping in a rear seat, "you ought to have seen the 15-pound bass I caught last summer in a minner net."

How He Suffered.
"Does your husband suffer much with the felon on his finger?" we asked of the wife of the deaf and dumb man.
"Indeed," she answered, "he is often perfectly speechless from the pain."

Warning Note.
Johnny—Paw, what does it mean when it says "sound the tocsin?"
Mr. Wise—Oh, I reckon it's one of these fights about antidioxin.

Down to Date.
"Why do you ring a bell every time you get a coin in your cup?"
"I believe in giving the utmost publicity to all contributions," answered the mendicant with a significant smile.

Inconsistency.
"I shouldn't think such a pronounced prohibitionist as you are would want to make a trip to Berlin."
"Why not?"
"Because it is always on the Spree."